

NSC BRIEFING

NO CHANGE IN CLASS. IS
DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C 1990
NEXT REVIEW DATE:
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 1-14-80 REVIEWER: 372044

31 October 1956

BACKGROUND--NEAR EAST MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

(Date of Information: 4:00 pm, 31 October)

- I. Anglo-French "occupation" of Suez began with air attack on Cairo area at 6:40 pm Cairo time, 31 Oct. Cairo announcement states bombardment included incendiaries and high explosives. Cairo admits "some damage to property" but claims no casualties.
- A. Delay in opening of offensive apparently resulted from unfavorable weather conditions at targets--gusty winds and sandstorms.
- B. Immediate Anglo-French military objective appears to be knock out airfields. UK defense ministry has broadcast to Egyptians, telling them to stay away from these fields until Egypt "accepts" ultimatum.

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